915-310-1 USSN: 09/497,238

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 11-16.

Please add the following new claim 17.

17. (New) A method for transmitting digital data in an additional channel of a cable television system applying time division multiple access in which slots of a defined slot length are assigned for terminal equipment in order to distribute the use of data transmission capacity to the equipment, and the use of slots in the cable TV system are controlled by use indications transmitted downstream, which slots are further divided into mini slots, the use of which is controlled by the indications transmitted downstream, wherein

mini slots are used for the transmission of reservation messages which the terminal equipment use for informing a central configuration that the terminal equipment wish to reserve data transmission capacity.